

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
)
 John R. Bianchi et al.)
)
 Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)
)
 Filed: Herewith)
)
 OPEN INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
 Commissioner for Patents
 PO Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

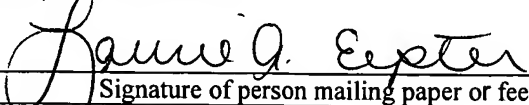
Prior to examination of this application please consider the following.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this submission.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims, which begins on page 3 of this submission.

Remarks begin on page 10.

Additionally, please provide any extensions of time, which may be necessary and charge any fees, which may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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